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USDA NATIONAL  
ORGANIC PROGRAM

2005 JUL 20 P 3:18

Rentals, Box 234

Ewing, VA 24248

July 16, 05

Phone: 276-445-5061

Docket # TM-0407

Dear Mr. Neal,

I am writing concerning synthetic substances allowed in organic crop production.

\* In article 205.601, these items are currently approved & Should be continued:

(a) <sup>synthetic</sup> aldehydes, especially chlorine materials

These substances are truly necessary to protect the integrity of organic products. Without the use of these substances, products could be contaminated with non-organic substances, or worse, could become infected with natural, though deadly, contaminant (e-coli, etc.) In fact, all the items in 205.601 Should be continued. The lists that we have, I believe are trimmed down to the bare essentials. Any further exclusions would be counterproductive. (We don't live in a perfect world.)

\* In article 205.605, all the items listed Should be allowed, both nonsynthetic & synthetic. I love Kaolin, & it's perfectly harmless.

\* In 205.606, all currently allowed products Should be allowed in the future.

To require the use of unavailable products is unreasonable & will only result in "regulating" people out of organic production.

Organic regulations, under the federal program, have taken a very "politically correct" turn. Many of the regulations have become unreasonable & impossible for many growers to follow.

Example: "Let's require organic seed, even though organic seed aren't available. Let's require crop rotation, even though crop rotation isn't necessary for a good, organically grown product, in some cases. Let's restrict mulch, even though we don't eat the mulch."

Rather than greasing a large administration with mowed tape, let's be reasonable. We don't live in an organic world, & we really can't create one.

Thanks,

Patricia Burke  
Certified Organic Grower  
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